

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 BUENOS 02859 241714Z

73

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-02

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 AID-05

/060 W

----- 030623

R 241601Z APR 75

FM AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0932

C O N F I D E N T I A L BUENOS AIRES 2859

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, AR

SUBJ: ELECTION OF NEW PROVISIONAL PRESIDENT OF SENATE?

1. MRS. PERON YESTERDAY (APR 23) SIGNED DECREE CONVOKING NEXT SESSION OF CONGRESS. INAUGURAL SESSION WILL BE HELD MAY 1, AND AT THAT TIME MRS. PERON WILL DELIVER HER FIRST "STATE OF THE NATION" SPEECH.

2. PREPARATORY SESSION WILL BE HELD APRIL 25 WITH PURPOSE OF ELECTING NEW OFFICERS. NO SIGNIFICANT CHANGES ARE EXPECTED IN THE CHAMBER OF DEPUTIES. IN THE SENATE, HOWEVER, JOSE ANTONIO ALLENDE IS EXPECTED TO LOSE HIS PLACE AS PROVISIONAL PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE. LA OPINION REPORTER WHO VISITED ALLENDE'S OFFICES YESTERDAY REPORTED ATMOSPHERE OF GLOOM, AND QUOTED ONE STAFF AIDE AS SAYING IT WAS ALL OVER FOR ALLENDE.

3. BULK OF PERONIST SENATORS WISH TO REPLACE ALLENDE WITH TOP PERONIST. AS ONE PERONIST SOURCE PUT IT: "ALLENDE IS AN EXCELLENT MAN. WE ADMIRE HIM. BUT HE ISN'T A PERONIST, AND IF ANYTHING HAPPENDED TO MRS. PERON HE WOULD NOT BE ABLE TO STEP IN EASILY AND EFFECTIVELY AS PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC". SENATORS CARLOS EVANS (MENDOZA) AND ITALO LUDER (BUENOS AIRES PROVINCE) SEEM TO HAVE THE INSIDE TRACK AS REPLACEMENTS FOR ALLENDE, WITH THE

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 BUENOS 02859 241714Z

FORMER SOMWHAT AHEAD OF THE LATTER.

4. INTERESTINGLY, RAUL LASTIRI (AS VICE PRESIDENT OF PERONIST PARTY) REPORTEDLY HAS TOLD PERONIST SENATORS THAT MRS. PERON WANTS TO LEAVE PRESIDENCY OF THE SENATE UNFILLED. THERE IS STRONG OPPOSITION TO THIS FROM PERONIST AS WELL AS OTHER BLOCS. MRS. PERON'S RATIONALE IN WANTING TO LEAVE SPOT UNFILLED OR TO LEAVE ALLENDE IN IT (WHICH REPORTEDLY WAS HER WISH SOME WEEKS BACK) IS OBVIOUS. PRESIDENT OF SENATE IS NEXT IN ORDER OF SUCCESSION TO TAKE OVER AS PRESIDENT OF NATION (THERE NOW BEING NO VICE PRESIDENT). ALLENDE WOULD NOT HAVE SUFFICIENT BACKING, HOWEVER, TO ACT EFFECTIVELY AS PRESIDENT; NEITHER WOULD LASTIRI OR CHIEF JUSTICE BERCAITZ (THE OTHER DESIGNATED SUCCESSORS). THE FACT, THEN, THAT THERE IS NO VIABLE SUCCESSOR TO MRS. PERON IS AN INHIBITING FACTOR FOR ANYONE WHO MIGHT WISH TO MOVE AGAINST HER. WERE THERE A STRONG "PRESIDENCIABLE" FIGURE IN THE SENATE JOB, HER CHANCES OF SURVIVAL IN OFFICE WOULD BE REDUCED. HENCE, SHE WOULD RATHER SEE THE SLOT VACANT, OR FILLED BY ALLENDE. THE PERONIST POLITICIANS, ON THE OTHER HAND, HAVE OTHER INTERESTS. THEY ARE THINKING OF THE FUTURE AND OF THE DIFFICULT POSITION IN WHICH THEY WOULD FIND THEMSELVES SHOULD MRS. PERON BE FORCED OUT WITH NO VIABLE PERONIST IN PLACE TO STEP INTO THE PRESIDENCY. THUS, WHILE MRS. PERON FAVORS A VACUUM IN THE SENATE, THEY WANT TO PLACE A STRONG FIGURE IN THE SENATE PRESIDENCY. THE ELECTION IN THE SENATE APRIL 25, THEREFORE, MAY WELL SHAPE UP AS ONE OF THE KEYS TO THE FUTURE.

HILL

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: CENTRAL LEGISLATURE, PARTY LEADERS, ELECTION CANDIDATES, PRESIDENTIAL SUCCESSION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 24 APR 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: woolflhd
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975BUENOS02859
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750144-0823
From: BUENOS AIRES
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750418/aaaaaqhz.tel
Line Count: 90
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION ARA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: woolflhd
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 02 SEP 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <02 SEP 2003 by BoyleJA>; APPROVED <22 DEC 2003 by woolflhd>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: ELECTION OF NEW PROVISIONAL PRESIDENT OF SENATE?
TAGS: PINT, AR, (EVANS, CARLOS), (LUDER, ITALO), (ALLENDE, JOSE ANTONIO)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006